



Refinery Celebrates Billionth Barrel Run

'29 to '45 Men Honored With Medals, Reception

From the opening parade of the Legion Drum & Bugle Corps to the closing national anthems by the Navy Band, refinery forces took time out March 15 to celebrate the passage of the one-billionth barrel of crude oil through the stills. Employees and visitors numbering over a thousand attended the ceremony that commemorated the Company's first 16-year refining history in Aruba and with it a production record rarely equaled anywhere.

The Main Office flew the flags of many nations for the occasion, and a feature of the decorations was a huge replica of the bronze medallions which were presented to Billion-Barrel Men.

The Aruba Air Force (known legally as the Flying Club) sent planes piloted by H. Culver and J. McCord over the scene, and an artillery salute from the batteries lent a military flavor as the program began.

L. G. Smith, Lago's president, made the opening address, after welcoming Governor Kasteel of Curaçao, the guests, and employees. "We are assembled here today", he said, "not so much to boast about Lago's size as to pay tribute to the loyalty, hard work, and initiative of our employees who have made our unparalleled achievement possible. Very few refineries in the world have run a billion barrels of petroleum, and no refinery has ever run a billion barrels in 16 years as we have done... It has truly been a gigantic task in which all of us who have had a part can well be proud".

Mr. Smith read a number of congratulatory cables (in addition to those printed in this issue, cables were received from C.P.I.M., M.W. Kellogg Co., the Bishop of Curaçao, S.E.L. Maduro & Sons, K.L.M., Trinidad Leaseholds, All-America Cable, the Curaçao Courant, and C.C. McDermond), and at the con-

Cont. on page 2

Son of Former I. R. Manager Reported Missing in Action

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Colby, well-known former Lagoites, received War Department advice last month that their son, Pfc. Whitney C. Colby Jr. has been missing in action in France since January 6.

The Colbys had not been aware that their 20-year-old son, member of an infantry division mortar squad, had been in action. He had gone overseas in November.

Whitney, who was prominent in Lago School activities during his five-year residence here, graduated from Montclair High School in June, 1943, and immediately entered Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but was inducted two months later.

Mr. Colby, who was Industrial Relations Manager here for several years and is now in the New York Office, lives in Montclair, New Jersey. The Colby's daughter, Elizabeth, is a Lt. (j.g.) in the Waves, stationed in Washington.

I am informed that Lago's Aruba refinery has recently processed its billionth barrel of crude and I extend my heartiest congratulations. This is an outstanding record achieved despite adverse conditions, extended blackouts, and even enemy attack. Every gallon of products from your plant since before Pearl Harbor has represented a direct contribution toward winning the war, and every member of your organization who has borne a part may take pride and satisfaction in the accomplishment. The military forces today need every additional gallon of war products that can be produced, and I know that we may count upon continued all-out performance at Aruba.

— HAROLD L. ICKES
Petroleum Administrator for War

Curaçao Student Returns Home After Four Years Under Nazis

The first Curaçaolean to arrive home from the liberated portion of Holland was Eddie Vos, 22, who had gone to the Netherlands for schooling when he was 14 years old, and was caught there by the German invasion.

After nearly five years of Nazi terror, he was reunited with his family in Willemstad last month, and spent many days telling his family and friends his experiences. After a vacation, he is to go to work in the lake fleet of the C.P.I.M.

He studied navigation at Delfzijl, but after a year there the school was destroyed by bombs, and he completed his studies in Amsterdam, spending his weekends in Eindhoven, where he has relatives. Afterwards he lived for six months in Eindhoven, and then went to Maastricht, where he worked as a post-office clerk until the Allied armies arrived.

Before leaving Holland he met Elly Nederhorst, a girl he knew ten years ago in Curaçao, and who had joined the Red Cross unit that was recently recruited there.

Refineria Ta Celebra Billon Bari

Fo'i e cumansamentu d'je parade di e "Legion Drum & Bugle Corps", desde e terminando cancionnan nacional por e Banda Marina empleadonan a tuma parti den celebracion di e billon bari di petroleo crudo cu a pasa door e stillnan.

Mas cu mil empleado y bishitanan a asisti na ceremonia pa celebra e prome 16 ana di historia di refinamentu na Aruba y na mes tempo un record di produccion cu a worde obtena masha poco bes.

Pa e ocasion aki, banderanan di hopi nacion a bula fo'i Main Office (Officina Principal), i un replica masha grandi di e medalla di brons cu a worde presenta na e Billon Bari Empleadonan, tambe a dorna e edificio.

E curpa di Aruba Aviacion (conoci le-

Continua den Pag. 2

Softball Standings

(At completion of regular league play March 11)

	Won	Lost	Pts.	Pct.
Dutch Army	7	2	7	.777
Lago Heights	7	2	7	.777
San Lucas	6	3	6	.666
San Nicolas Jr.	6	3	6	.666
Sport Park	6	3	6	.666
Victoria	6	3	6	.666
Esso Garage	3	6	3	.333
La Fama	2	7	2	.223
Torpedo	2	7	2	.223
Jong Holland	0	9	0	.000

February 25

Dutch Army	5	Esso Garage	5
Jong Holland (forfeit)	0	Torpedo (forfeit)	0
San Nicolas Jrs.	13	Lago Heights	13
Sport Park	6	La Fama	7

March 4

Victoria	5	Sport Park	5
Esso Garage (forfeit)	0	Jong Holland (forfeit)	0
Lago Heights	7		
San Lucas	2		

The regular schedule of the Sport Park Softball League ended with a runaway game March 11, when the Sport Park team found their batting eye to swamp the Dutch Army team 24 to 12, and at the same time slugged their way into a four-way tie for third and fourth place. So many home runs were made that it wasn't a question of whether a batter made a circuit clout, but rather how many were on bases when he made it.

The preliminary playoff took place the following weekend, with Roy Stickel of Training handling the umpiring assignment. In the first game, the San Nicolas Juniors ran up an early 4-1 lead over the Sport Park, but in the end experience counted, and the Sport Park team, well-sprinkled with baseball players, pulled up to win 5 to 4.

Experience failed in the second game, however, when San Lucas, with a number of regular baseballers, lost 10-6 to Victoria, a team relatively new to softball. San Lucas started strongly to get a 3-0 lead in the first inning; the lead alternated several times during the game, with the score going into the last inning 7 to 6 for Victoria, and they sewed up the game with three more runs.

In the semi-finals yesterday (March 25), Lago Heights was scheduled to meet the Sport Park, and the Dutch Army was to play Victoria. The winners of these games will meet in the final, tentatively scheduled for April 8, at 10 a.m., at the Sport Park.

Baseball

March 4	
Army	5
Falcon	2

Three-Day Cricket Series Planned for Easter Weekend

Aruba and Curaçao cricketers will meet again next weekend in a three-day series that is being promoted by J. Sharpe of the Sport Park cricket XI.



J. Sharpe

The visitors will be the Ajax club, which will play an All-Lago aggregation on March 31, and will then meet the Lago Sport Park team in a two-day match April 1 and 2.

The All-Lago team will include I. Mendes (captain), F. Robinson, C. Comacho, A. Richards, P. Chen, A. Nichols, A.

Thomas, J. Wilson, K. Perrotte, and P. Horsford.

The Sport Park players include J. Sharpe (captain), T. Johnson, G. Worrell, M. John, R. McLean, H. Wallcott, O. Simeon, J. Guishard, V. Campbell, D. Simon, E. Martin, and E. Collins.

Observacion di John Marugg, cu a papia como representando di e Homber di Billion Barri:

"Awe, como un simbolo di aprecio y reconocimiento di nos sirbishiñel desde January, 1929, Compania ta presenta nos cu un medalia cual cada un di nos a worde honra na acceptele. Den number di boso trahador di Aruba, y di mi tambe, mi ta gradici Lago pa es medalia valerosa, y ofreciendo afectuoso congratulacion na Directiva na es momento auspicioso. Especialmente nos ta extende congratulaciones na un Senor, bau cual su mando nos a traha boluntariamente durante e mayor parti di e periodo di prome billion barri. Na e Caballero aqui, Sr. Lloyd G. Smith, nos ta duna nos compliment, y na Compania di Lago, di cual e ta su Presidente, nos deseo pa un otro record mundial cu e di dos billion barri di petroleo. Ta nos esperanza y oracion cu uso di e petroleo di dos billion barri en vez di worde usa den un tempo di gera, cu su uso lo ta pa mundo na paz, y pa mejoramiento y felicidad di tur humanidad."

Leftie-Rightie Superiority Undecided as Test is Draw

The Lago-Lefties, cricket players who would be called "southpaws" if they were baseball players, set out two weeks ago to prove their superiority over right-handed players. They probably proved something, but no one is quite sure what, since their first match, with Eagle, was drawn. They did, however, indicate that left-handers, traditionally good bowlers, can be good with the bat, too.

Because of a late start the Lago XI declared after making 135 runs for seven wickets. Eagle then made 130 for seven, before the game was stopped.

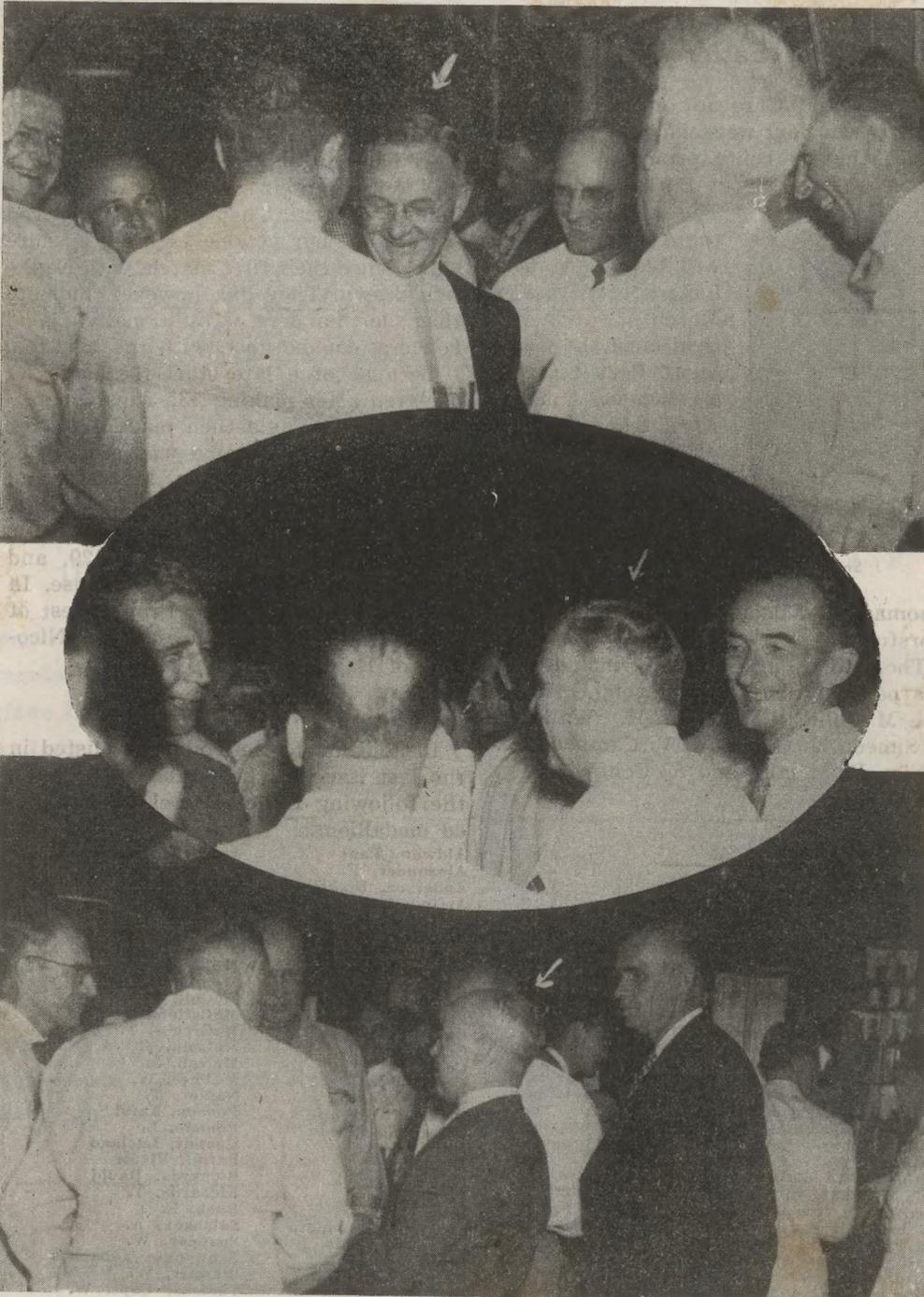
W. Brown, C. deAbreu, F. West, and C. Roach were top scorers for Lago, getting 44, 20, 20, and 17 respectively. Pilgrim with 35, Barrett with 29, and Bolah with 20 helped Eagle's cause. In the bowling department, Frank West of the Lefties got five wickets, and Nico-laas of Eagle got three.

In addition to the employees listed in the last issue of the Aruba Esso News, the following Billion-Barrel men received medallions:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Aldwijn, Paul | Larmonie, Edward |
| Alexander, F. | Lioe-A-Tjam, R. |
| Anderson, Erskine | Lynch, Edgar |
| Arrindell, W. | Mackay, J. |
| Atkinson, S. | Mackay, W. |
| Banfield, Henry | Maduro, Cerilio |
| Banfield, Owen | Mann, Thomas |
| Benjamin, Jose | Mills, S. |
| Bennett, Walter | Monte, F. |
| Berrisford, Chas. | McCall, H. |
| Brookson, Herman | McCallum, A. |
| Brown, James | McGregor, T. |
| Connor, Frederick | McLean, J. |
| Cook, D. | McNab, J. |
| Craig, W. | McPhee, W. |
| Croes, Rudolph | Napier, T. |
| Dirks, Frederick | Ponson, Karel |
| Dunn, Mc Murdo | Pounds, L. |
| Ellis, F. | Quandt, Luciano |
| Evans, D. | Rafini, Victor |
| Felipe, Miguel | Richards, David |
| Fisher, J. | Richards, T. |
| Frew, D. | Rush, E. |
| Geerman, Benedicto | Salsback, A. |
| Geerman, Louis | Scapens, W. |
| Gray, John | Schwengle, Johannes |
| Hazel, Walvin | Stewart, W. |
| Helliger, J. | Thomas, Capt. W. |
| Hodge, Armand | Thompson, Albion |
| Hodge, Phillip | Tode, Augustia |
| Hughes, Maxime | Vroolijk, Roman |
| Hyman, Bertin | Watkins, H. |
| Jackson, H. | Welch, T. |
| Javois, Martin | Wilkie, R. |
| Jones, S. A. | Williams, G. |
| Koolman, Juan | Woodrow, A. |
| Koolman, Victoriano | Wright, C. |



The Lago School, in one of the best productions ever staged there, presented "June Mad" as its annual play March 14 and 15, under the direction of Mrs. W. W. Hensley. Shown at left are the combined casts of the two evening performances. In front, left to right, are Paula Moyer, Jeanne Mingus, Albert Ray, Mrs. Hensley, Hugh Chandler, Elizabeth Brook, and Laverta Abadie. Back row, Minerva Josephson, John Teagle, Betty Ann Binnion, Douglas Maxwell, William Rafloski, Claire Wilken, William Flaherty, Eugene Kimler, Elaine Kimler, and Robert Turner.



When officials F. W. Abrams, W. J. Haley, and W. J. Stewart visited the Plant last month, supervisors met them at a gathering at the Esso Club February 23. At top, a story by J. Armstrong (back to camera, at left) amuses L. McBurney, T. Woodley, Mr. Abrams (arrow), J. Johnson, and C. Osborne. Mr. Abrams is vice-president of the Standard Oil Company (N.J.), and a director. Center, Mr. Stewart, vice-president of the Imperial Oil Company of Canada is seen with F. Scott, left, and W. A. Tucker, right. At bottom, Mr. Haley, who is vice-president of Lago and coordinator of Lago operations with the S.O. Co. (N.J.) board, talks with B. Teagle, M. C. Bates, and R. Mundinger. At right, "Take our picture", they said, so we did. The long and short of it (reversing that order) are John Sherman and Forrest Riggs.



Esso-News

George H. Mettam, New Jersey Works Manager and a director of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, died of a heart ailment February 6, at the age of 55. He had been hospitalized for several weeks, following a severe heart attack.

Mr. Mettam's Company career, which began in 1906 with a vacation job as a pipefitter helper, carried him upward through many posts in the Bayway and Bayonne organizations. He had been manager of the New Jersey Works for the last eight and a half years. During 1943 he left the Company for nine months to serve in wartime government service.

He was known throughout New Jersey as a leader of civic and welfare organizations.

William Kinkade, senior annuitant of the S.O. Co. (N.J.) and first recipient of the President's Cane, an award started by present Board Chairman R. W. Gallagher, died last month at the age of 93.

He had been an annuitant since 1919, after 40 years of Company service. Mr. Gallagher visited Mr. Kinkade's home last May to present the President's Cane to the veteran annuitant.

Arthur T. Proudfit was elected president of the Creole Petroleum Corporation, Venezuelan producing affiliate, March 1, succeeding C. H. Lieb, who died on December 30, 1944. Mr. Proudfit will continue as general manager with his office in Caracas.

At the same time, Horry F. Prioleau, vice-president and director, was elected executive vice-president, and becomes Creole's chief executive officer in New York.

Mr. Proudfit, who started with the Company in 1919 as a drilling tool dresser at Tampico, has divided his 26 years of service between operations in Mexico, the Argentine, and Venezuela. Mr. Prioleau started his career as a laboratory assistant in the Charleston, S.C., refinery in 1921. After four years there and four in New York, he went to The Hague as head of the Jersey Standard affiliate there. In 1934 he became general manager, and continued at The Hague until forced out in 1940 by the German occupation of Holland. Since then he has worked for various foreign operating units of the Jersey Standard group.

B-B

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clusion of his address a sample representative of the billionth barrel was brought to him by senior apprentice Frederick Ritveld.

The first guest speaker introduced by Mr. Smith was Governor General Kasteel of Curaçao. In congratulating the men and women of Lago, he said: "Like the good artist who is never satisfied with his work, you will be keen to get on to the next billion but I hope and believe before you have progressed very far victory will be here. Then with the bells of that victory, towards which you have played so great a part, ringing in your ears, you can carry on with the good work, but then you will be working to build up a new world on the ruins and rubble of the old."

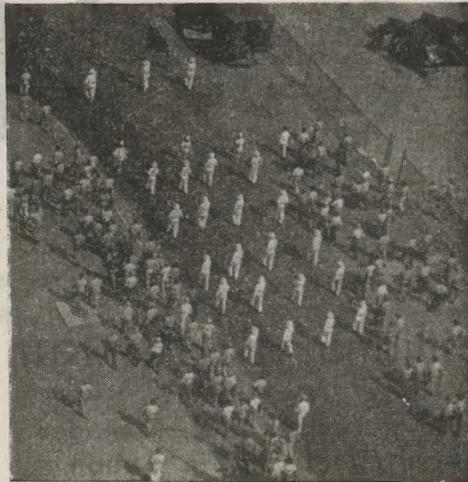
At the conclusion of his speech, Governor Kasteel called for and led three cheers for Mr. Smith.

Lt. Governor Wagemaker was the next speaker, appearing before a Lago audience probably for the last time before his departure this Spring. Speaking with authority as one who was in close touch with the refinery's entire history, he reviewed the passing years and recalled the "close cooperation that has always existed between the local Government and the Company".

The next two speakers were men of the U.S. Navy, both of whom, as Rear Admiral F. E. Beatty said, had "been in the Pacific; not that we want to boast about it, but to tell you that no one appreciates more than we do what it means, when you have looked for trouble and found it, to know that somewhere you can find a tanker loaded with fuel". Admiral Beatty expressed his confidence that Lago would maintain its record, and concluded with the Navy's traditional "Well done!" Commodore L. W. Busbey jr., in saluting the employees, said "What you have accomplished is in every way as important to the conduct of the war as are the various successful military and naval campaigns ... we wouldn't get far if plants like this didn't keep our ships and machines filled up with fuel".

John Marugg of Accounting spoke in both English and Papiamento for the Billion-Barrel Men and other employees. Mr. Marugg centered his speech on the beneficial effect the Company's presence has had on the well-being of Aruba and its people.

Following the presentation of medal-



The American Legion Drum & Bugle Corps has been "shot" from many angles, but never this one before. This is how things look from the top of the Cat Plant. Photograph by James Dickie, on special assignment for the ESSO NEWS.

THE FLOOD OF CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES SENT TO YOU ON YOUR BILLIONTH BARREL DAY AGAIN EMPHASIZES THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION BEING MADE BY ARUBA (STOP) I CONGRATULATE EVERY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS SHARED IN THIS ACHIEVEMENT

— W. J. HALEY Vice-president, L. O. & T. Co.

lions to 210 Billion-Barrel Men, Mr. Smith paid special tribute to the ten lake tankers that have been in service since the beginning.

The Netherlands, British and United States national anthems closed the program, and after a reception in the Main Office for Billion-Barrel Men and guests, a great day in Lago's history had come to a close.

Everybody couldn't attend the Billion-Barrel Day celebration, somebody had to keep that second billion flowing. Shown at right is the crew that operated the Cat Plant during the ceremony. Front row, left to right, P. Shanks, J. Castillo, R. Tittsworth, F. Breusers, M. Richardson, and J. Fingal. Back row, P. Volney, G. Strang, M. D'Aguiar, M. Kelly, and W. Caster.



BILLON BARI

Cont. di pag. 1

galmente como "Flying Club"), a manda aeroplano ariba escena guia door H. Culver y J. McCord, y un salut di e artilleria fo'i bateria a duna un color militar ora e programa a cumenza.

L. G. Smith, presidente di Lago, a duna e promé discurso despues di jama bon bini na e Gobernador di Curaçao Sr. Kasteel, invitado i empleadonan, "Awe nos ta asamblea aki," el a bisa "no pa e motibo di broma cuenta e grandura di Lago, pero pa duna tributa na lealtad, trabao duro, y iniciativa di nos empleadonan cu a haci posibel e exito incomparable. Masha poco refineria a refina billon bari di azeta den 16 anja manera nos a haci. Berdaderamente e tawata un trabao gigantesco den cual nos tur cu a tuma parti, por sea orgulloso. Na e terminacion di su discurso un monster, representando e Billion Bari, a worde treci na e Señor Smith door e aprendiz Frederick Ritveld.

E prome bishitador cu a duna un discurso, tawata Señor Kasteel, Gobernador di Curaçao. Felicitando e homber y muhernan di Lago el a bisa "Manera e bon artista cu nunca ta satisfecho cu su trabao, bosonan lo ta ansioso pa sigui cu e proximo billon, pero mi ta spera y pensa prome cu bo a progresa mucho victoria lotta aki. Anto cu e kloknan di victoria, pa cual bo a hace bo parti, sonando den bo orea, bo por sigui cu e bon grabao, pero e ora, lo bo ta trahando pa construi un mundo nobo ariba e ruinanan y basura d'je bieuw.

Na e terminacion di su discurso Gobernador Kasteel a puntra pa tres aplauso pa Señor Smith.

E señor Gezaghebber Wagemaker tawata e segundo orador; apareciendo dilante un auditorio di Lago probablemente pa e ultimo bes prome cu su salida den proximo primavera. (lente).

Papiando cu autoridad manera un cu tawata den relacion apreta cu e henter historia di refineria, el a revisa anjanan pasá y a recorda e cooperacion intimo cu a existi semper entre e gobernamentu local y e compania.

E siguiente oradornan tawata homber di marina di U.S., tur dos, mandera Contra Almirante F. E. Beatty a bisa, tawata den Pacifico, no cu nos kier broma ariba d'je, pero pa bisa bosonan cu ningun hende ta aprecia mas cu nos, loque e ta significa, ora bo a busca trobi, y a hayé, y bo sa cu den algun parti bo por haya un tanker carga cu azeta di quima.

Contra Almirante a expresa su confidencia cu Lago lo mantene su record y a termina cu "Well done!" loque ta tradicional cu e marina. Commodore L. W. Busbey Jr. salutando e empleadonan, a bisa "Loque bosonan a cumpli ta, na tur manera asina importante pa e continuacion di gera manera tur otro campana militar y marino. Nos no yega mucho leu si refineria manera esaki no tene nos barco y maquinanan yen di azeta.

John Marugg di Accounting a papia den nomber di Billion Bari homber y otro empleadonan en Ingles y papiamento.

Marugg a papia principalmente ariba e bon efecto cu e presencia d'je Compania tabatin pa e bien estar di Aruba y su hendenan.

Despues e presentacion di medallanan na 210 Billion Bari Hombenan, Señor Smith a duna tributo special na e 10 tankero, cu tawata den servicio desde e principio.

E programa a worde termina cu e cancionnan nacional di Nederland, Gran Britania y Estados Unidos y despues un reception den Main Office pa e Billion Bari Homber y bishitanan un gran dia den historia di Lago a yega su fin.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Members of his department met at the Plant Commissary February 17 for farewells to Amie Maas, who left for the United States a few days later. Shown at right is a part of the group, as Frank Ciccarelli presents a pocket watch to Mr. Maas on behalf of all the Commissary employees.



Never send a boy to do a man's work, they say, so Alex Shaw, assistant general foreman of Utilities, in the first picture below, works on the red and green lights with which umpire F. E. Riggs called balls and strikes in the stunt game between M. & C. and Electrical last month. John McCord, who with Benny di Murro promoted the game, is at left. At bottom, Roy Thurman starts an unsuccessful slide into third base. He made an unofficial protest afterward that there should be a rule against third basemen as wide as Frank Gladman, because it was impossible for a runner to reach the bag.



A three-week course in first aid is being completed this week by 20 boys who will graduate from the apprentice program early in April. The final step in their four years of schooling in Company classrooms and on the job is this special training in knowing what to do in an emergency, when an injured person's life may depend on the presence of someone who knows first aid principles. During the three weeks the boys received 36 hours of training, with R. D. Brown of the Safety Department (at right in the picture) giving the instruction, and C. L. Brul and H. J. Lichtveld of Training reviewing the material. Below, ten of the students are shown learning how to apply one type of bandage. (See translation for names).

Un curso di tres siman den dunamento di prome auxilio ta worde terminá e siman aki door di 20 mucha-homber cu lo gradua den e curso di aprendiz na principio di April. E ultimo paso den nan cuater aña di estudio den school di Compania y tambe na trabao ta e entrenamiento especial aki pa nan por sabi kiko haci den un caso di emergencia, ora bida di un persona cu a haya un desgracia por ta depende ariba dunamento di prome auxilio door di un hende cu sabi kiko e ta haci. Durante e tres simannan e muchanan a ricibi 36 ora di instrucción fo'i R. D. Brown di Departamento di Seguridad, (na banda drechi di e fotografia) kende a worde asisti door di C. L. Brul y H. J. Lichtveld di Departamento di Entrenamento. Abao, diez di e aprundizan ta sinja con pa pone un cierto soorto diverband. Di banda robex pa drechi, sintá: Abe-leno Thiel, Leopold Tromp, Apolinario Martis, Jose Kock y Pedro Flemming. Pará: Gregorio Ma-duro, Juan Fingal, Leo Geerman Higinio Jansen y Sixtro Feliciano.



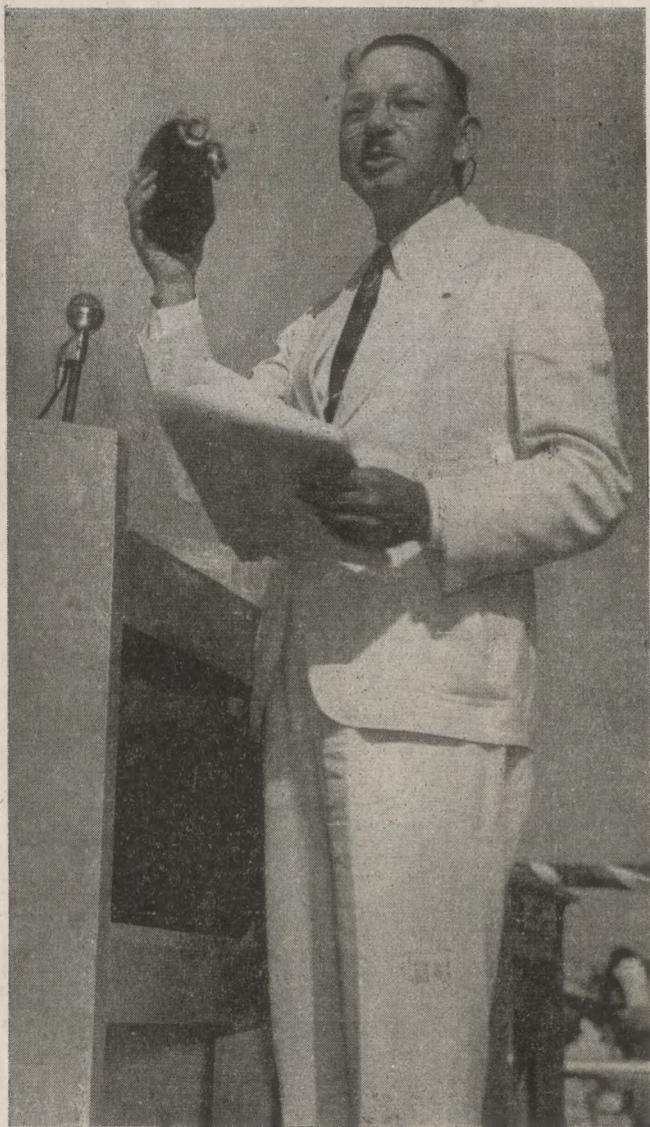


BILLION BARREL

MARCH 1945

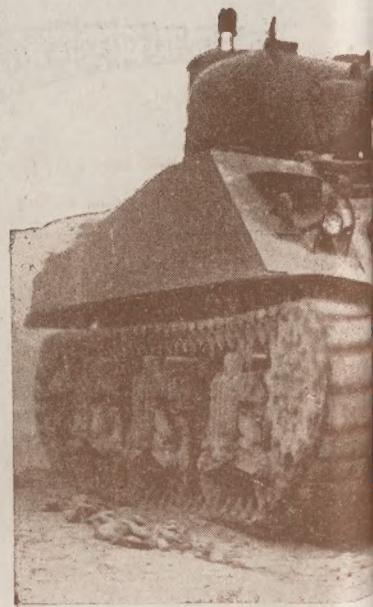


L. G. Smith, President:
"The billionth barrel of petroleum is now going through the plant and here is a representative sample...."



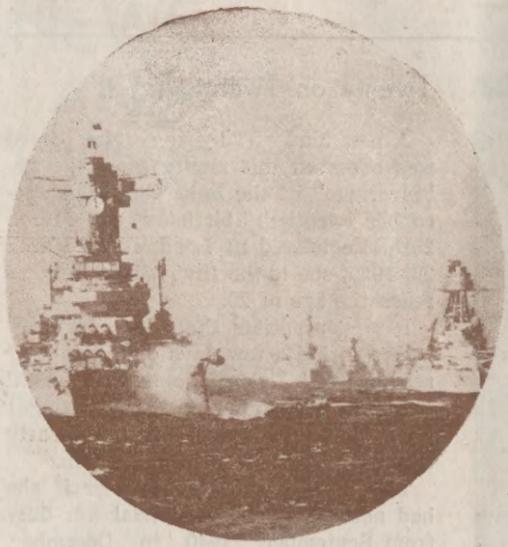
Your employees merit a salute from the Army Air Forces, not alone because of their Billion Barrel Production record, but because so large a part of it was achieved under the pressure and the difficulties of the war years. When military needs for petroleum products skyrocketed, your extra production efforts kept the pace and when the petroleum industry was called on for vastly increased amounts of aviation gasoline, you helped fill that bill too. You are doing your share to keep them flying.

— H. H. ARNOLD
General, Army Air Forces

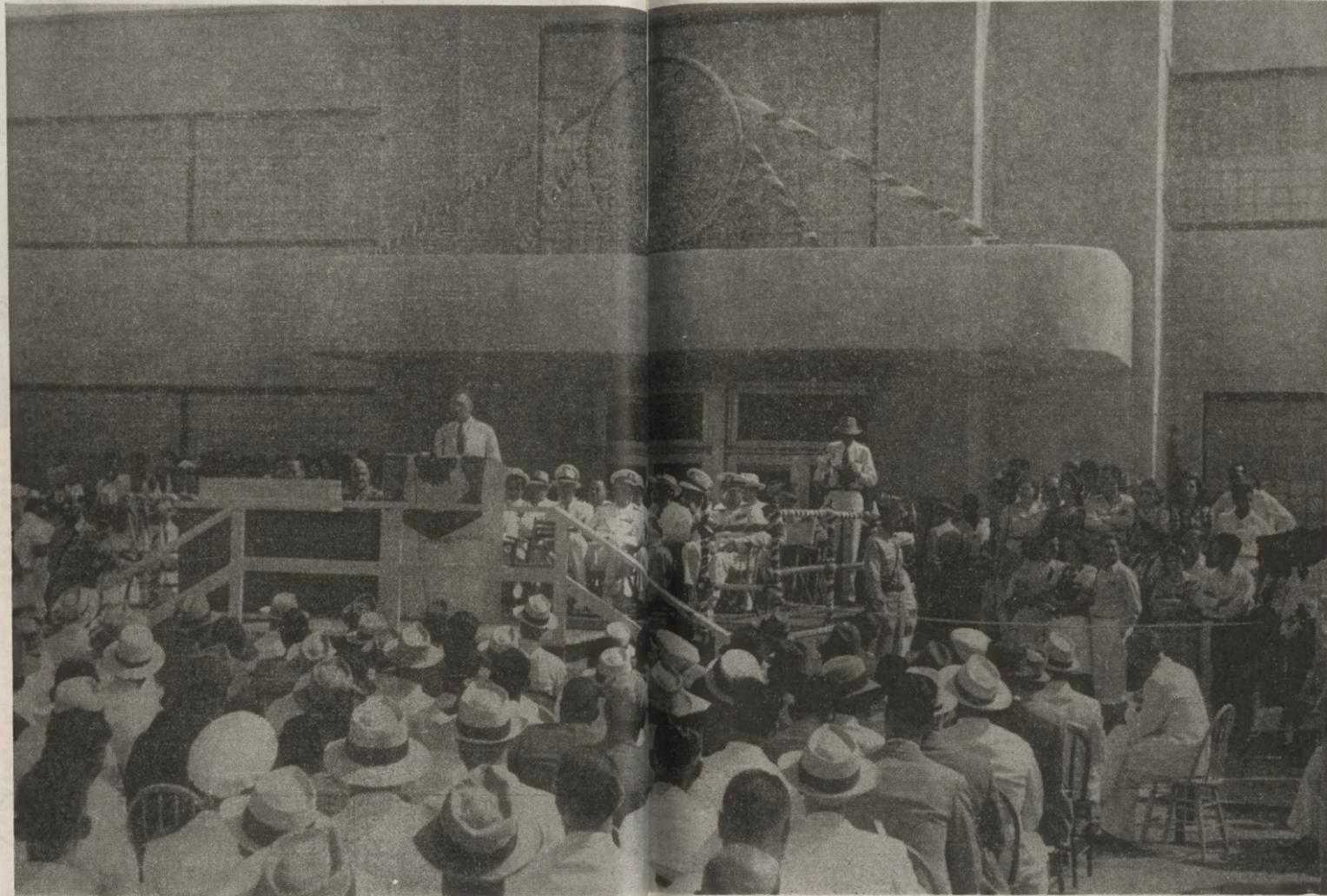
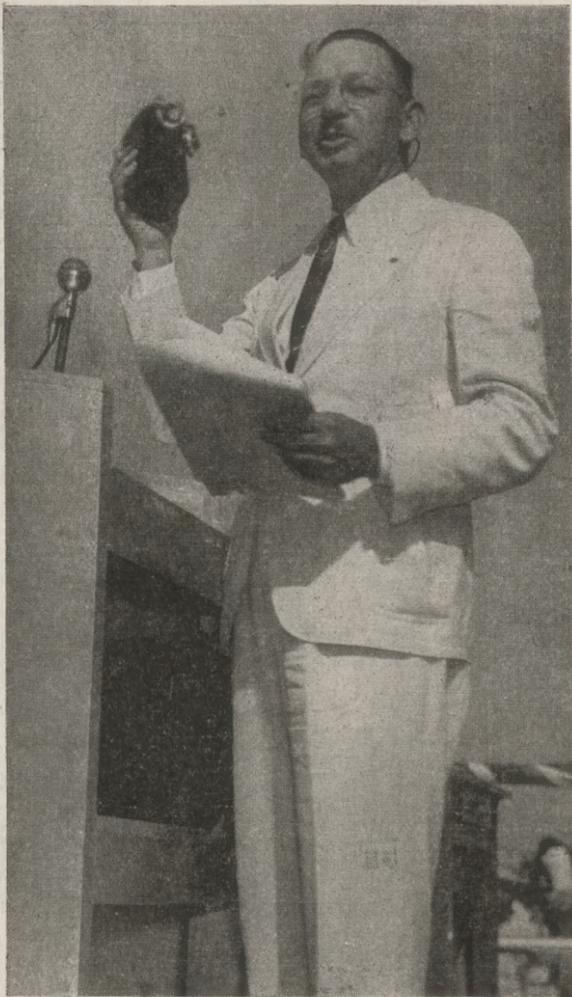


BILLION BARREL DAY

MARCH 15, 1945.



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— H. H. ARNOLD
General, Army Air Forces



To the men and women of Lago: Your achievement in refining one billion barrels of crude oil since January, 1929 has been an outstanding aid in winning this war. The Allied fighting fleets have never suffered acute shortage of oil despite unprecedented demands. Behind this record lies loyal effort on the part of all hands. The gratitude of the Navy and the nation goes to those who are doing this vital war job.

— W. J. CARTER
Rear Admiral, Supply Corps, U.S.N.



J. D. Marugg, for the Billion-Barrel Men:
"It is our hope and prayer that the oil of the second billion barrels.... may be used in a world at peace, and for the betterment and happiness of all mankind".
"Ta nos esperanza y oracion cu uso di e petroleo di dos billion barri en vez di worde usa den un tempo di gera, cu su uso lo ta pa mundo na paz...."

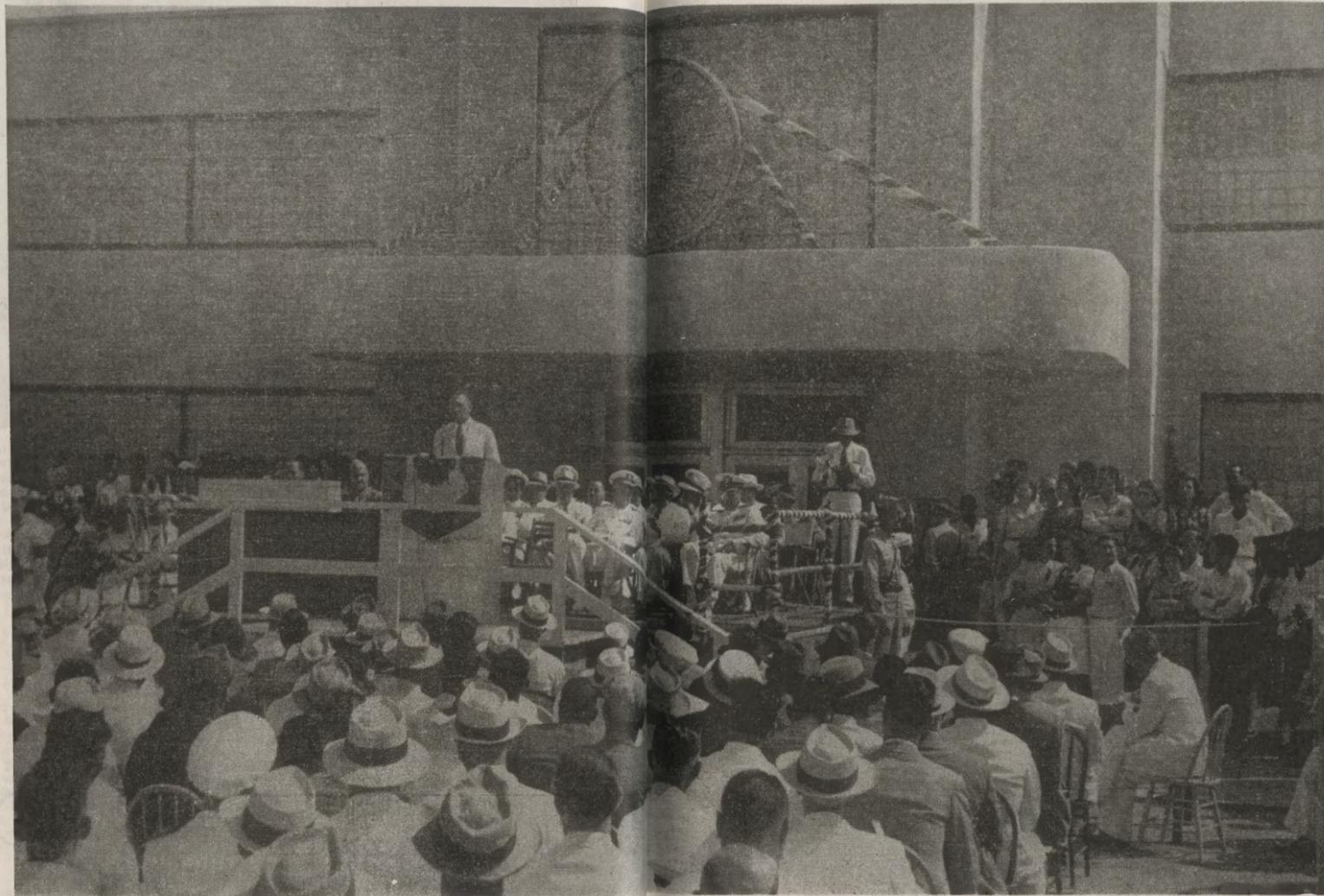
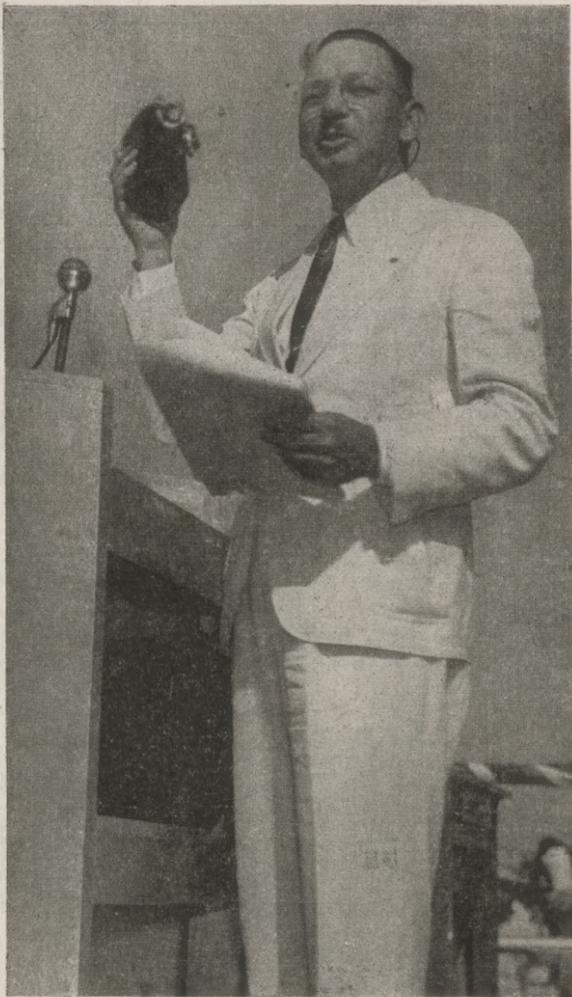


BILLION BARREL DAY

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L. G. Smith, President:
"The billionth barrel of petroleum is now going through the plant and here is a representative sample..."



Your employees merit a salute from the Army Air Forces, not alone because of their Billion Barrel Production record, but because so large a part of it was achieved under the pressure and the difficulties of the war years. When military needs for petroleum products skyrocketed, your extra production efforts kept the pace and when the petroleum industry was called on for vastly increased amounts of aviation gasoline, you helped fill that bill too. You are doing your share to keep them flying.

— H. H. ARNOLD
General, Army Air Forces



To the men and women of Lago: Your achievement in refining one billion barrels of crude oil since January, 1929 has been an outstanding aid in winning this war. The Allied fighting fleets have never suffered acute shortage of oil despite unprecedented demands. Behind this record lies loyal effort on the part of all hands. The gratitude of the Navy and the nation goes to those who are doing this vital war job.

— W. J. CARTER
Rear Admiral, Supply Corps, U.S.N.

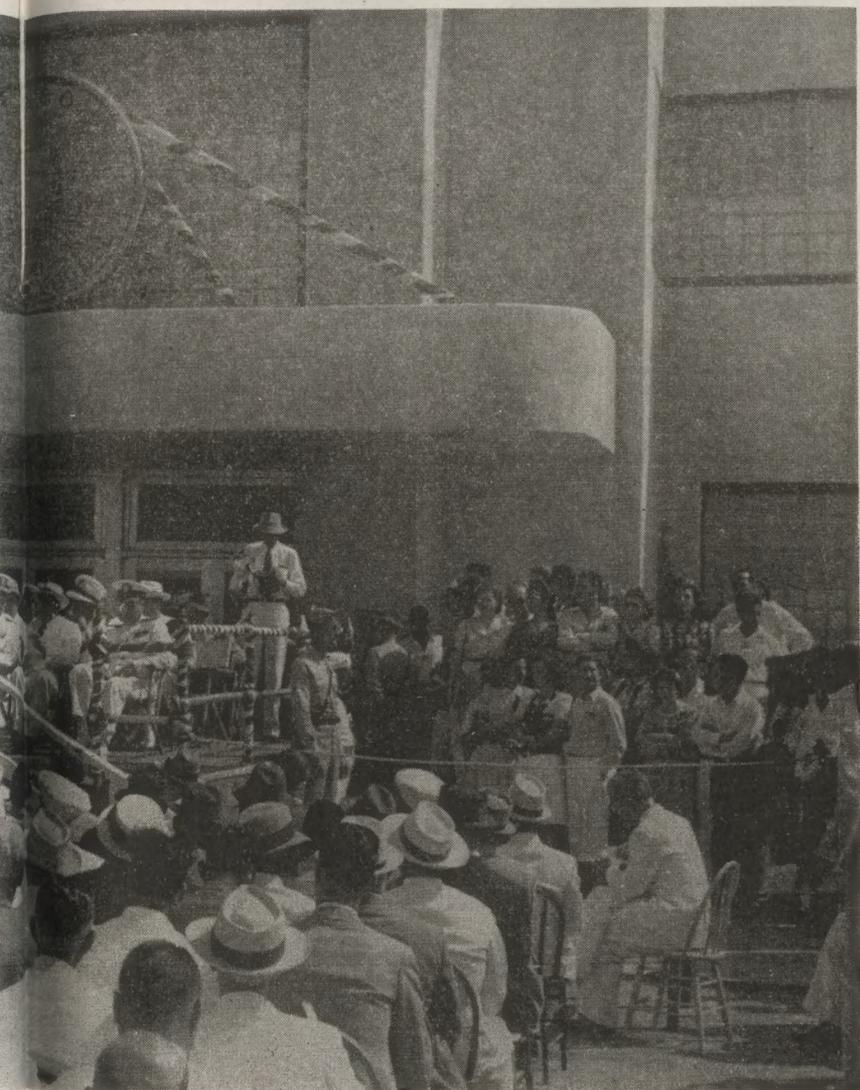


J. D. Marugg, for the Billion-Barrel Men:
"It is our hope and prayer that the oil of the second billion barrels.... may be used in a world at peace, and for the betterment and happiness of all mankind".
"Ta nos esperanza y oracion cu uso di e petroleo di dos billion barri en vez di worde usa den un tempo di gera, cu su uso lo ta pa mundo na paz...."



ARRIVED TODAY

15, 1945.



J. D. Marugg, for the Billion-Barrel Men:

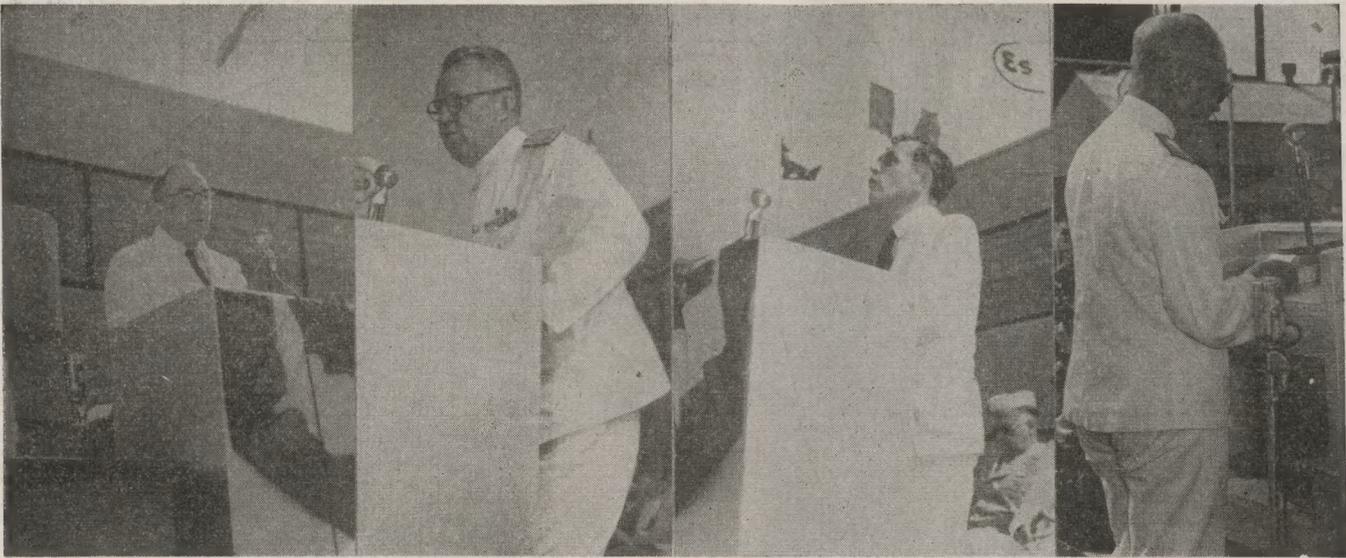
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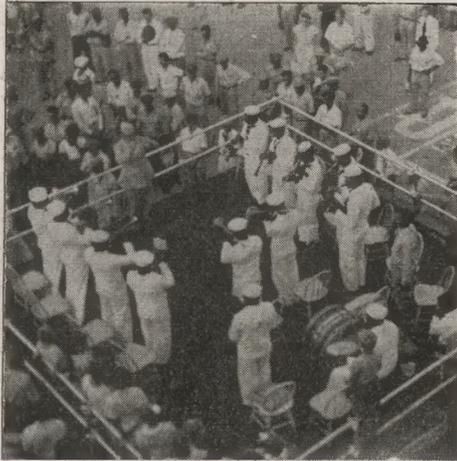
"The inhabitants... met the requirements"
 — Lt. Governor I. Wagemaker

"...if you put it end to end it will accomplish almost anything!"
 — Rear Admiral F. E. Seatty

"You have played your part in that Rhine crossing..."
 — Governor P. Kasteel

"I salute you... for giving us the life blood of war..."
 — Commodore L. W. Busbey jr.

Billion-Barrel Men and visitors gathered in the Main Office lobby after the ceremony, for sandwiches and punch.



The U.S. Navy band from Curaçao was an attraction.

The refinery subcommittee of the Caribbean Area Petroleum Committee (of P. A. W.) in regular meeting today passed resolution extending congratulations to entire Aruba organization for its contribution to war effort and for its achievement of passing one billion barrels through its stills.

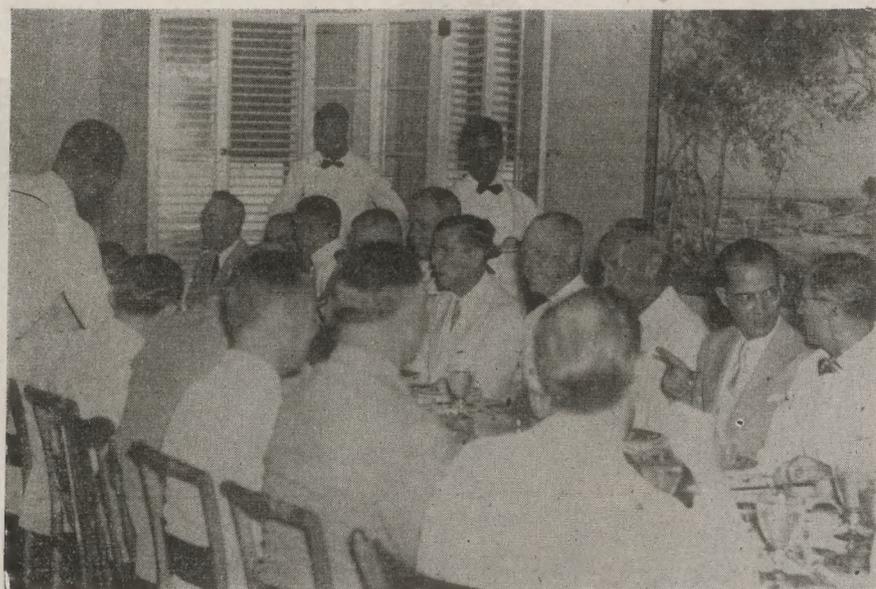
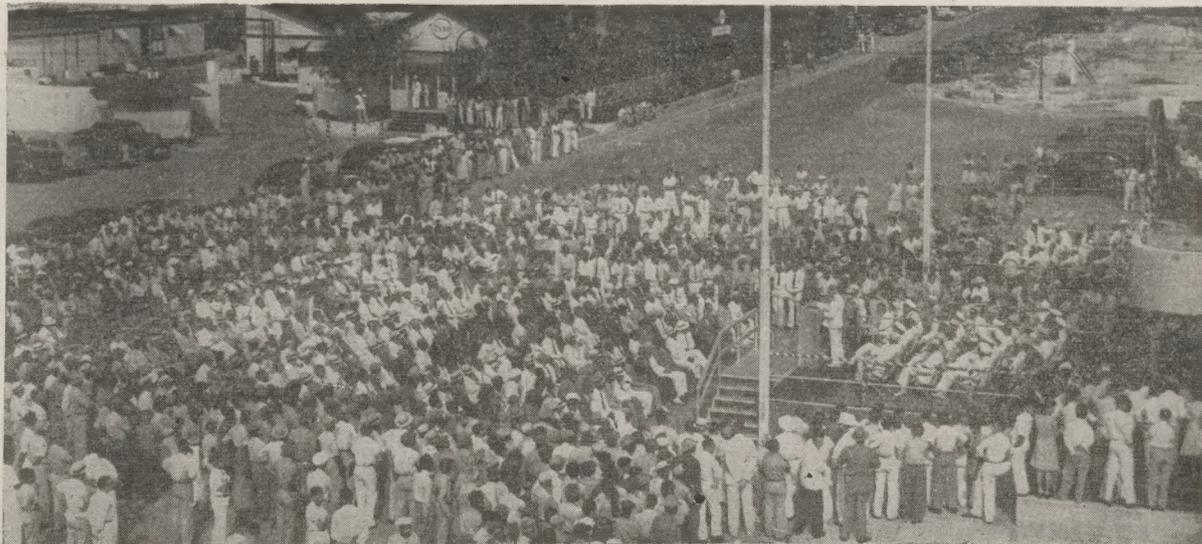


Placido Geerman receives his medallion, with George Gibson next in line.



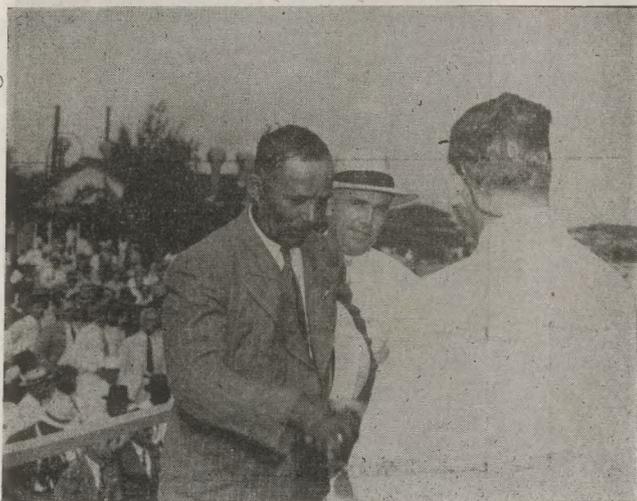
Your achievement in processing one billion barrels of oil since 1929 as well as in running the world's record quantity for one refinery under the trying conditions of 1944 merits the hearty congratulations of all your fellow workers in the Jersey Company. I join them in wishing you continued success in turning out record quantities of vital war products.

— EUGENE HOLMAN
President, Standard Oil
Co. (N.J.)



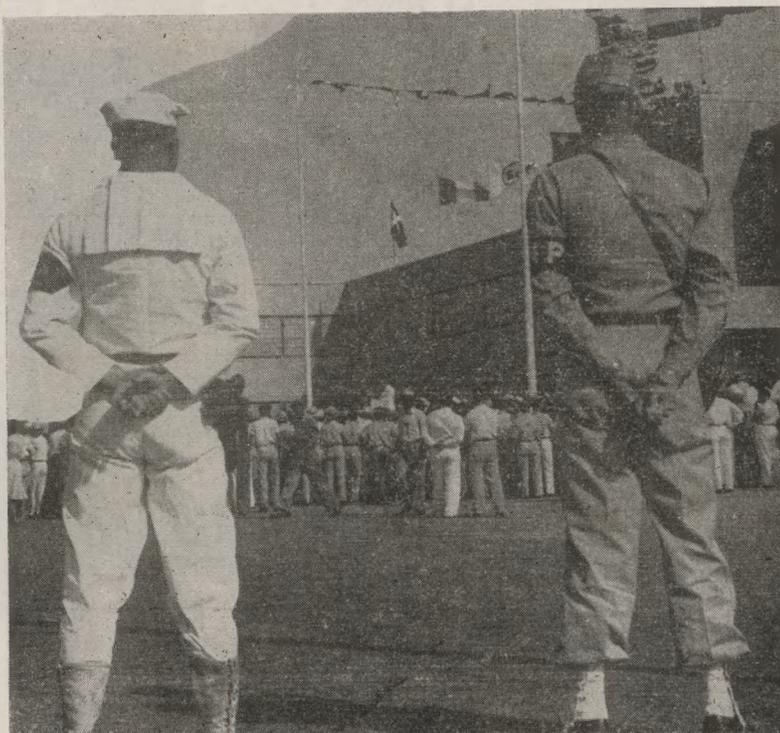
Distinguished visitors were entertained at lunch before the ceremony.

Gabriel Weller of the Garage and Ralph Watson of R. & S. receive their medallions together. Two of the longest-service employees, they were "shipmates" in a rowboat from which San Nicolas harbor soundings were made in 1924.



On the occasion of the billionth barrel of crude oil processed in your refinery the War Department takes this opportunity of expressing the appreciation of our fighting forces to all Lago employees in Aruba for their production of vitally needed gasoline, fuel oil and lubricants for our machines and weapons of war. Your employees are justifiably entitled to be proud of their wartime accomplishment, which during the early stages of the war meant working at dangerous jobs under the threat of enemy attack and for a considerable period in total blackout. I am confident that Lago Oil and Transport will meet the mounting demands for more and more petroleum in this global war as a fighting member of our Allied team.

Under Secretary of War
— R. P. PATTERSON



30-Year Button

John Preston of Equipment Inspection received a 30-year service emblem February 27, presented by General Manager L. G. Smith. (See picture below). Mr. Preston was first employed by the Company at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, May 19, 1911. In 1922 he went to the Cia. Nacional de Petroleos at Campana, Argentina, as assistant manager. He remained there until March 22, 1935, when he was transferred to the Trinidad Oil Fields Operating Company, at La Brea refinery, as general superintendent. When this operation was discontinued, he transferred to Aruba November 1, 1939.

At right, Mr. Preston receives congratulations from J. B. Whitely, L. D. McBurney, F. W. Switzer, and L. R. Seekins.



February, 1945

10-Year Buttons

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Howard Baker | Accounting |
| Eduardo Geerman | Gas Plant |
| Stefano Hernandez | L. O. F. |
| Levi Latham | Utilities |
| Ciriaco Tromp | Executive |
| James Stewart | Accounting |
| Jose Britten | Boiler |
| Margarita Dirksz | Laundry |
| Francisco Semeleer | L. O. F. |
| Gaston Hunt | L. O. F. |
| Nathaniel White | Drydock |
| Basilio Boekhoudt | Marine Wharves |
| Cosmo Lopez | Col. Maint. |
| Harry Gillis | L. O. F. |



20-Year Buttons

Hendrik Wever Marine

Francisco Oduber Accounting

Alexander Shaw Utilities

